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Amendment and Response

Applicant: Jason D. Hanzlik et al.

Serial No.: 10/801,285

Filed: March 16, 2004

Docket No.: 10423US01

Title: TAPE REEL ASSEMBLY WITH MICROCELLULAR FOAM HUB

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add claim 20.

Please cancel claim 13.

Please amend claims 1 and 12 as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A tape reel assembly for use in a tape drive system for winding and unwinding storage tape, the tape reel assembly comprising:

a plastic microcellular foam hub portion including:

a hub defining a tape winding surface;

a first flange extending radially from an end of the hub;

wherein one of the hub and the first flange define drive teeth~~the hub is formed of microcellular foam.~~

2. (Original) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the microcellular foam is selected from the group consisting of microcellular polycarbonate foam, microcellular glass-filled polycarbonate foam, microcellular carbon-filled polycarbonate foam, microcellular styrene acrylonitrile foam, microcellular polystyrene foam, microcellular acrylonitrile butadiene styrene foam, microcellular acetal foam, microcellular nylon foam, microcellular poly-ether-ether-ketone foam, microcellular polyetheramide foam, microcellular polypropylene foam, microcellular polyethylene foam, and microcellular polyester foam.

3. (Original) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the microcellular foam has a cell size of between 5 and 50 micrometers.

4. (Original) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the tape winding surface has an average total waviness of less than 1000 micro-inches.

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5. (Original) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the tape winding surface has an average total waviness of less than 500 micro-inches.

6. (Original) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the tape winding surface has an average total waviness of approximately 150 micro-inches.

7. (Original) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the tape winding surface has a radial total indicator run-out of less than 700 micro-inches.

8. (Original) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the tape winding surface has a radial total indicator run-out of approximately 500 micro-inches.

9. (Previously Presented) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the hub defines a wall thickness of between 0.05 to 0.2 inch.

10. (Previously Presented) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the hub defines a wall thickness of between 0.07 to 0.125 inch.

11. (Previously Presented) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the hub defines a wall thickness of approximately 0.1 inch.

12. (Currently Amended) The tape reel assembly of claim 1, wherein the tape reel assembly further includes:

~~a second an upper flange extending radially from an end of the hub opposite of the first flange; and~~

~~a lower flange, the upper and lower flanges coupled to and extending in a radial fashion from opposing ends of the hub.~~

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13. (Cancelled)

14. (Original) A data storage tape cartridge comprising:

a housing defining an enclosed region;

at least one tape reel assembly rotatably disposed within the enclosed region and including:

a hub defining a tape winding surface; and

a storage tape wound about the tape winding surface;

wherein the hub is formed from a microcellular foam.

15. (Original) The data storage tape cartridge of claim 14, wherein the tape winding surface has an average total waviness of less than 500 micro-inches.

16. (Original) The data storage tape cartridge of claim 14, wherein the tape winding surface has an average total waviness of approximately 150 micro-inches.

17. (Original) The data storage tape cartridge of claim 14, wherein the tape winding surface has a radial total indicator run-out of less than 700 micro-inches.

18. (Original) The data storage tape cartridge of claim 14, wherein the tape winding surface has a radial total indicator run-out of approximately 500 micro-inches.

19. (Previously Presented) The data storage tape cartridge of claim 14, wherein the hub defines a wall thickness of between 0.07 to 0.125 inch.

20. (New) The data storage tape cartridge of claim 14, wherein the hub includes drive teeth.